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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Military Information from Potsdam

2. Military Information from Schwedt/Oder

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 27 November to 2 December 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 15 January 1951

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Potsdam.

1. [REDACTED] eight caterpillar tractors towing artillery pieces, and six trucks left the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam (N 53/Z 63), at 6:30 a.m. The units which had left the installation on 20 November were observed to return at 12:40 p.m. on 27 November. [REDACTED] they had been relieved in the woods where the guns had been emplaced. [REDACTED] the troops which did the relieving were those who had left the installation at 6:30 a.m. (1)

2. Recruits wearing gas masks were seen drilling with six artillery pieces in the billeting area of the Delius Kaserne during the morning hours of 27 November. Older personnel were cleaning guns and vehicles. The recruits from the Delius Kaserne, including the infantrymen who had recently arrived and their officers, were observed engaged in aiming practice with eight guns at Bornstedter Field during the morning hours of 28 November, while older personnel were still engaged in the cleaning of guns and vehicles. In the afternoon of that day, all troops in the Delius Kaserne received general and political instruction. The activities from 29 November to 1 December followed the pattern of 28 November. At 9:20 a.m. on 2 December, all trained soldiers and all recruits from the installation marched to the target range at Katharinonholz near Bornim, carrying rifles and submachine guns.

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3. At 8:20 a.m. on 30 November, 20 officers and 80 men with suitcases and boxes were addressed in a farewell ceremony by a lieutenant colonel who was the deputy commander of the unit in the Delius Kaserne. They subsequently left toward Krampnitz

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4. A wire fence, about 180 cm high, was constructed around the ammunition dump of the artillery unit and the oil and explosives dump of the engineer unit at Bornstedter Field on 29 November, combining the two dumps into one compound.

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[redacted]

25X1 5. [redacted] the installation was occupied to capacity on 1 December. New officers who arrived there were billeted opposite the gate of the Kriegsschule on Kirsch-allee, in an apartment house from which Soviet dependents had to move. The new arrivals had ranks from senior lieutenants up to and including majors of all branches of service, including the air force and the navy. It was said that the officers were to attend a three-week course of instruction. (3)

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[redacted] 6. No Soviet troops were stationed in Schwedt on the Oder River. There were no indications that troops were going to be quartered there. (4)

25X1 [redacted] comments.

25X1 (1) Compare with a previous report [redacted] stating that elements of the artillery brigade from the Delius Kaserne constructed and occupied positions in the area north of Wichenhorf. [redacted]

25X1 The information indicates that the units there were relieved weekly.

25X1 (2) Possibly personnel who left for demobilization or who were detached to a training course for officers and NCOs of the artillery brigade.

25X1 (3) Compare with previous information by the same and [redacted] on courses being conducted at the Kriegsschule on Normsteater field.

25X1 (4) [redacted] 10 officers and 40 EM from the Delius Kaserne were transferred to Schwedt/Oder on 26 October. They were allegedly to constitute the cadre for a new unit to be activated there. [redacted] The reference report had been forwarded with reserve. It is believed that the officers and EM who left the Delius Kaserne on 26 October were either discharged or detached to courses. The present report describes a similar occurrence which took place on 30 November.

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